THE DRAWINGS

Formal drawings are submitted as requested by the Examiner.

REMARKS

Claims 25-45

Claims 25-45 are amended in view of the Examiner's rejections under 35 USC §§ 101, 102, and 112. Independent Claim 25, as amended, is not anticipated nor made obvious by the cited art because the cited art does not include all the elements listed in Claim 25.

Claims 26-45 are dependent on Claim 25 and include all the features of independent Claim 25. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 26-45 are allowable for at least the reasons provided herein with respect to Claim 25. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 26-45 recite additional features that independently render Claims 26-45 patentable over the cited art.

Claims 1-24

In the office action, Claims 1-24 are rejected over Bodamer et al. and Braud et al. It is respectfully submitted that the cited art neither anticipates nor makes obvious Claims 1-24 for the following reasons. Independent Claims 1 and 24, each include the novel feature of including converting information into an intermediate form. In other words, multiple source systems can communicate with multiple target systems within the enterprise in a many-to-many correspondence by using the intermediate form of data. If a source system needs to communicate with N number of target systems, the source system need only convert information into one intermediate form that can be used by each of the N target systems. Similarly, M source systems and N target systems can efficiently share

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information with each other in a many-to-many correspondence by using one intermediate form of information. In contrast, Braud et al. teaches that a message generation system must format a given message using the proprietary message protocol that is specific to each disparate ancillary system (see block 314 and 316 of FIG. 3). In other words, the message is generated using a different proprietary protocol that is specific to each recipient of the message. In the case of Bodamer et al., Bodamer involves using an agent to translate database commands that can be understood by the specific foreign database. The agent process translates the database command into a different form that is specific to each foreign database rather than translating the database command to a common intermediate form. In other words, whereas independent Claims 1 and 24 require that a first form of data be converted into a second common intermediate form and the intermediate form be converted into a third form, Bodamer et al. discloses only two forms of data. The agent process in Bodamer translates the database command (first form of data) into a specific form (second form of data) for the foreign database. Thus, Bodamer et al. and Braud et al. neither anticipate nor suggest using an intermediate form for data conversion. No common intermediate format is disclosed in the cited art. Thus, independent claims 1, and 24 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-23, are dependent on Claim 1, either directly or indirectly, and include all the features of independent Claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2-23 are allowable for at least the reasons provided herein with respect to Claim 1. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2-23 recite additional features that independently render Claims 2-23 patentable over the cited art.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2207, under Order No. 384818043US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: <u>August 3, 2005</u>   Respectfully submitted,

By _____
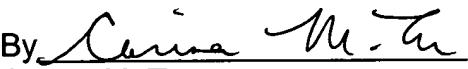
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Attachments